中华人民共和国国家知识产权局

100037 北京市阜成门外大街2号万通新世界广场8层 中国国际贸易促进委员会专利商标事务所 李德山 E063121	发文日 专利局 2007.09.07.00 发文
申请号：2005800045321	
申请人：冲电气工业株式会社	
发明名称：附加信息处理设备、附加信息处理系统及附加信息处理方法	RECEIVED 07.10.26 FUJIPAT

第一次审查意见通知书

（进入国家阶段的PCT申请）

1. ☑应申请人提出的实审请求，根据专利法第35条第1款的规定，国家知识产权局对上述发明专利申请进行实质审查。
   ☐根据专利法第35条第2款的规定，国家知识产权局专利局决定自行对上述发明专利申请进行审查。
2. ☑申请人要求以其在：
   JP 专利局的申请日 2004年 02月 10日为优先权日，
   专利局的申请日 年 月 日为优先权日，
   专利局的申请日 年 月 日为优先权日。
3. ☐申请人于 年 月 日和 年 月 日以及 年 月 日提交了修改文件。
   经审查，申请人于 年 月 日提交的 不符合专利法实施细则第51条第1款的规定。
   ☐_____
4. ☑审查是针对原始提交的国际申请的中文译文进行的。
   ☐审查是针对下述申请文件进行的：
   ☐说明书 第_____页，按照进入中国国家阶段时提交的国际申请文件的中文文本；
   第_____页，按照专利性国际初步报告附件的中文文本；
   第_____页，按照依据专利合作条约第28条或41条规定所提交的修改文件；
   第_____页，按照依据专利法实施细则第51条第1款规定所提交的修改文件；
   第 页，按照 年 月 日所提交的修改文件。
   ☐_____
   ☐权利要求 第_____项，按照进入中国国家阶段时提交的国际申请文件的中文文本；
   第_____项，按照依据专利合作条约第19条规定所提交的修改文件的中文文本；
   第_____项，按照专利性国际初步报告附件的中文文本；
   第_____项，按照依据专利合作条约第28条或41条规定所提交的修改文件；
   第_____项，按照依据专利法实施细则第51条第1款规定所提交的修改文件；
   第 项，按照 年 月 日所提交的修改文件。
   ☐_____
   ☐附图 第_____页，按照进入中国国家阶段时提交的国际申请文件的中文文本；
   第_____页，按照专利性国际初步报告附件的中文文本；
   第_____页，按照依据专利合作条约第28条或41条规定所提交的修改文件；
   第_____页，按照依据专利法实施细则第51条第1款规定所提交的修改文件；
   第 页，按照 年 月 日所提交的修改文件。

☐_____

☑本通知书引用下述对比文件(其编号在今后的审查过程中继续沿用):

编号	文件号或名称	公开日期(或抵触申请的申请日)
1	JP2001218030A	2001-8-10
2	EP0984615A2	2000-3-8
3	JP6022119A	1994-1-28

5. 审查的结论性意见:

☐关于说明书:

☐申请的内容属于专利法第 5 条规定的不授予专利权的范围。

☐说明书不符合专利法第 26 条第 3 款的规定。

☐说明书不符合专利法第 33 条的规定。

☐说明书的撰写不符合专利法实施细则第 18 条的规定。

☐_____

☑关于权利要求书:

☑权利要求 1-3, 16 不具备专利法第 22 条第 2 款规定的新颖性。

☑权利要求 6, 8-14 不具备专利法第 22 条第 3 款规定的创造性。

☐权利要求_____不具备专利法第 22 条第 4 款规定的实用性。

☐权利要求_____属于专利法第 25 条规定的不授予专利权的范围。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法第 26 条第 4 款的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法第 31 条第 1 款的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法第 33 条的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法实施细则第 2 条第 1 款的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法实施细则第 13 条第 1 款的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法实施细则第 20 条的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法实施细则第 21 条的规定。

☐权利要求_____不符合专利法实施细则第 22 条的规定。

☑权利要求 5-9, 13 不符合专利法实施细则第 23 条的规定。

☐_____

☐分案的申请不符合专利法实施细则第 43 条第 1 款的规定。

上述结论性意见的具体分析见本通知书的正文部分。

6. 基于上述结论性意见,审查员认为:

☐申请人应按照通知书正文部分提出的要求,对申请文件进行修改。

☑申请人应在意见陈述书中论述其专利申请可以被授予专利权的理由,并对通知书正文部分中指出的不符合规定之处进行修改,否则将不能授予专利权。

☐专利申请中没有可以被授予专利权的实质性内容,如果申请人没有陈述理由或者陈述理由不充分,其申请将被驳回。

☐_____

7. 申请人应注意下述事项:

(1)根据专利法第 37 条的规定,申请人应在收到本通知书之日起的肆个月内陈述意见,如果申请人无正当理由逾期不答复,其申请将被视为撤回。

(2)申请人对其申请的修改应符合专利法第 33 条的规定,修改文本应一式两份,其格式应符合审查指南的有关规定。

(3)申请人的意见陈述书和/或修改文本应邮寄或递交国家知识产权局专利局受理处,凡未邮寄或递交给受理处的文件不具备法律效力。

(4)未经预约,申请人和/或代理人不得前来国家知识产权局专利局与审查员举行会晤。

8.本通知书正文部分共有 4 页,并附有下述附件:

☑引用的对比文件的复印件共 3 份 17 页。

☐____

审查员:宋作志(3542)

2007 年 8 月 26 日

宋作志印

审查部门 通信审查部

回函请寄:100088 北京市海淀区蓟门桥西土城路 6 号 国家知识产权局专利局受理处收

(注:凡寄给审查员个人的信函不具有法律效力)

第一次审查意见通知书正文

申请号：2005800045321

本申请涉及一种用于产生数字水印信息并将该生产的数字水印信息嵌入到媒体中的设备、系统和方法。经审查，现提出如下的审查意见。

从属权利要求5-9和13各自本身分别都是一个多项从属权利要求，却分别引用了在前的多项从属权利要求，因此不符合专利法实施细则第二十三条第二款的规定。申请人应当对该权利要求的引用关系进行修改。本审查意见是基于目前权利要求书中，各权利要求所引用的权利要求的基础上做出的。

1. 权利要求1所要求保护的技术方案不具备专利法第二十二条第二款规定的新颖性。对比文件1（JP2001218030A）公开了一种采用数字水印（相当于附加信息）的图像处理系统，并具体公开了以下技术特征：用于获取其中嵌入数字水印的输入图像数据的装置；用于提取图像中的数字水印的装置；当数字水印信息符合预定的条件时，通过修改数字水印来产生新的数字水印，通过所述输入图像数据或者通过删除数字水印而获得的图像数据中嵌入新的数字水印，来产生印刷（相当于拷贝）的图像（参见说明书第8-15,53-62段、附图1-4）。由此可见，对比文件1已经公开了该权利要求的全部技术特征，且对比文件1所公开的技术方案与该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案属于同一技术领域，解决相同的技术问题，采用相同的技术方案，并能产生相同的技术效果，因此该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案不具备新颖性。

2. 从属权利要求2不具备专利法第二十二条第二款规定的新颖性，其附加技术特征已被对比文件1（JP2001218030A）所公开：数字水印包含控制最大允许印刷输入图像次数的最大允许印刷次数信息，以及当最大允许印刷次数信息包含表示允许印刷的变量值时，通过改变变量值来产生新的数字水印，并且产生印刷的图像数据（参见说明书第53-62段、附图3-4）。因此在其引用的权利要求1不具备新颖性时，权利要求2也不具备新颖性。

3. 从属权利要求3不具备专利法第二十二条第二款规定的新颖性，其附加技术特征已被对比文件1（JP2001218030A）所公开：当变量值位于预定的范围时，最大允许印刷次数信息包含表示允许印刷的变量值（参见说明书第53-62段、附图3-4）。因此在其引用的权利要求2不具备新颖性时，权利要求3也不具备新颖性。

4. 从属权利要求6不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性，其附加技术特征被对比文件2（EP0984615A2）所公开：当密码标志（相当于附加信息）包含表示原始数据的特征（相当于标记值）时，将该特征改变成一个不表示原始数据的特征，产生新的密码标志，并产生拷贝的图像数据（参见说明书第72-81段、附图11-12）。并且该特征在对比文件2中所起的作用与其在本发明中所起的作用相同，都是用于将表示原

始文件的图像数据的标记值，改变成一个不表示原始文件的图像数据的标记值，并且产生拷贝的图像数据。因此在对比文件1的基础上结合对比文件2，得到该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案，对本领域技术人员来说是显而易见的，当其引用的权利要求1-3不具备新颖性时，权利要求6不具备创造性

5. 从属权利要求8不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性，该权利要求与对比文件1和2的区别特征在于：添加用户的个人识别信息到附加信息而产生新的附加信息。但该区别特征已经被对比文件3（JP6022119A）所公开：通过添加用户的个人识别信息到附加信息而产生新的附加信息（参见说明书第13页表4）。并且该区别特征在对比文件3中所起的作用与其在本发明中所起的作用相同，都是用于添加用户的个人识别信息到附加信息而产生新的附加信息。因此当其引用权利要求1-3时，在对比文件1的基础上结合对比文件3，得到该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案，对本领域技术人员来说是显而易见的，当权利要求1-3不具备新颖性时，权利要求8不具备创造性；当其引用权利要求6时，在对比文件1和2的基础上结合对比文件3，得到该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案，对本领域技术人员来说是显而易见的，当权利要求6不具备创造性时，权利要求8不具备创造性。

6. 从属权利要求9不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性，该权利要求与对比文件1和2的区别特征在于：添加系统的识别信息到附加信息而产生新的附加信息。但该区别特征已经被对比文件3（JP6022119A）所公开：通过添加装置的识别信息到附加信息而产生新的附加信息（参见说明书第13页表4）。并且该区别特征在对比文件3中所起的作用与其在本发明中所起的作用相同，都是用于添加系统的识别信息到附加信息而产生新的附加信息。因此当其引用的权利要求1-3不具备新颖性、权利要求6和8不具备创造性时，权利要求9不具备创造性。

7. 权利要求10所要求保护的技术方案不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性。该权利要求根据权利要求1-9中任一项所述的附加信息处理设备，加上一扫描仪和打印机。但是，在对前面的权利要求进行过评述的基础上（引用权利要求1-3，6，8-9的评述理由），对该权利要求继续进行评述。对比文件1公开了包括印刷出图像数据的打印机（参见说明书第13段）；同时对比文件3公开了包括扫描仪，用来通过扫描其中嵌入附加信息的印刷媒体，来获得要输入的图像数据（参见说明书第75段、附图15）。并且上述打印机和扫描仪分别在对比文件1和3中所起的作用与它们在本发明中所起的作用相同。因此，在对比文件1的基础上结合对比文件2和3，得到该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案，对本领域技术人员来说是显而易见的，因此权利要求10所要求保护的技术方案不具备突出的实质性特点和显著的进步，因而不具备创造性。

8. 从属权利要求11不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性，其附加技术特

征已被对比文件1所公开：包括双方向通信接口，因此隐含公开了包括数据接收单元，用来接收通过通信线路发送的图像，并且提供该图像给用于获取其中嵌入数字水印的输入图像数据的装置（参见说明书第13段、附图1）。因此当其引用的权利要求10不具备创造性时，权利要求11也不具备创造性。

9. 从属权利要求12不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性，其附加技术特征已被对比文件1所公开：包括双方向通信接口，因此隐含公开了其具有将图像数据发送到通信线路的数据发送单元（参见说明书第13段、附图1）。因此当其引用的权利要求10和11都不具备创造性时，权利要求12也不具备创造性。

10. 从属权利要求13不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性，其附加技术特征已被对比文件1所公开：包括显示部3，用于显示数字水印信息（参见说明书第56段）。因此当其引用的权利要求10-12都不具备创造性时，权利要求13也不具备创造性。

11. 权利要求14所要求保护的技术方案不具备专利法第二十二条第三款规定的创造性。该权利要求是在权利要求8所要求保护的附加信息处理设备的基础上，加上一信息读取单元。在对权利要求8评述的基础上（引用权利要求8的评述理由），对该权利要求继续进行评述。对比文件3公开了包括代码信息读取部（相当于信息读取单元），用来从书籍（相当于记录媒体）上读取代码（相当于个人识别信息），并且将读取的代码传输给附加情报管理部（参见说明书第75段）。并且该代码信息读取部在该对比文件中所起的作用与该信息读取单元在本发明中所起的作用相同，都是用于读取记录在媒体上的信息，并且提供给附加信息处理设备。因此，在对比文件1的基础上结合对比文件2和3，得到该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案，对本领域技术人员来说是显而易见的，因此权利要求14所要求保护的技术方案不具备突出的实质性特点和显著的进步，因而不具备创造性。

12. 权利要求16所要求保护的技术方案不具备专利法第二十二条第二款规定的新颖性。该权利要求是与产品权利要求1所一一对应的方法权利要求，评述理由参见第一项审查意见，由此可见，对比文件1已经公开了该权利要求的全部技术特征，且对比文件1所公开的技术方案与该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案属于同一技术领域，解决相同的技术问题，采用相同的技术方案，并能产生相同的技术效果，因此该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案不具备新颖性。

申请人应在本通知书指定的答复期限内作出答复，对本通知书中提出的所有问题逐一详细地作出说明，并根据本通知书的意见对专利申请文件作出修改，尤其是应根据本通知书中引用的对比文件修改独立权利要求以及相应的从属权利要求，并在意见陈述书中论述新修改的独立权利要求相对于本通知书中引用的对比文件以及原说明书

中提到的申请日前的现有技术具有新颖性和创造性的理由。此外，说明书应根据修改后的权利要求书作适应性修改。申请人对申请文件的修改应当符合专利法第三十三条的规定，不得超出原说明书和权利要求书的记载范围。

申请人在提交修改文本时应当提交：第一，修改涉及的那一部分原文的复印件，采用红色钢笔或红色圆珠笔在该复印件上标注出所作的增加、删除或替换；第二，重新打印的替换页，用于替换相应的原文。申请人应当确保上述两部分在内容上的一致性。

审查员：宋作志
代码：3542

THE PATENT OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Address: 6 Xi Tu Cheng Lu, Haidian, Beijing Post Code: 100088

Applicant:	OKI ELECTRIC INDUSTRY CO.,LTD.	
Attorney:	LI DESHAN	Date of Notification:
Application No.:	200580004532.1	Date: 07 Month: 09 Year: 2007
Title of the Invention:	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROCESSING DEVICE, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD	

Notification of the First Office Action
(PCT Application in the National Phase)

1. ☒The applicant requested examination as to substance and examination has been carried out on the above-identified patent application for invention under Article 35(1) of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Patent Law").
   ☐ The Chinese Patent Office has decided to examine the application on its own initiative under Article 35(2) of the Patent Law.

2. ☒ The applicant claimed priority/priorities based on the application(s):
   filed in JP on Feb. 10, 2004, filed in _____ on _____,
   filed in _____ on _____, filed in _____ on _____.

3. ☐ The following amendments submitted by the applicant are not acceptable under Art. 33 of the Patent Law:
   ☐ The Chinese translation of the amendments annexed to the IPEA Report.
   ☐ The Chinese translation of the amendments made under Art. 19 of PCT.
   ☐ The amendments made under Art. 28 or Art. 41 of PCT.
   ☐ The amendments made under Rule 51 of the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law.
   Specific reasons why the amendments are not acceptable are set forth in the text portion of this Notification.

4. ☒Examination was directed to the Chinese translation of the International Application as originally filed.
   ☐ Examination was directed to the application documents as specified below:
   ☐ Description ☐ Pages _____of the Chinese translation of the International Application as originally filed.
   ☐ Pages _____of the Chinese translation of the amendments annexed to the IPEA Report.
   ☐ Pages _____of the amendments made under Art. 28 or Art. 41 of PCT.
   ☐ Pages _____of the amendments made under Rule 51 of the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law.
   ☐Claims ☐ The Chinese translation of claims _____of the International Application as originally filed.
   ☐ The Chinese translation of claims _____of the amendments made under Art. 19 of PCT.
   ☐ The Chinese translation of claims _____of the amendments annexed to the IPEA Report.
   ☐ The Chinese translation of claims _____of the amendments made under Art. 28 or Art. 41 of PCT.
   ☐ The amendments of the claims _____made under Rule 51 of the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law.
   ☐Drawings ☐ Pages _____of the Chinese translation of the International Application as originally filed.
   ☐ Pages _____of the Chinese translation of the amendments annexed to the IPEA Report.
   ☐ Pages _____of the amendments made under Art. 28 or Art. 41 of PCT.
   ☐ Pages _____of the amendments made under Rule 51 of the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law.

5. ☒ Below is/are the reference(s) cited in this Office Action (the reference number(s) will be used throughout the examination procedure):

No.	Number(s) or Title(s) of Reference(s)	Date of Publication (or the filing date of conflicting application)
1	JP2001218030A	Date: 10 Month: 08 Year: 2001
2	EP0984615A2	Date: 08 Month: 03 Year: 2000
3	JP6022119A	Date: 28 Month: 01 Year: 1994
4		Date: __ Month: __ Year: ____
5		Date: __ Month: __ Year: ____

6. Conclusions of the Action:
   - ☐ On the Specification:
     - ☐ The subject matter contained in the application is not patentable under Article 5 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ The description does not comply with Article 26 paragraph 3 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ The draft of the description does not comply with Rule 18 of the Implementing Regulations.
   - ☒ On the Claims:
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are not patentable under Article 25 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ does/do not comply with the definition of inventions prescribed by Rule 2 paragraph 1 of the Implementing Regulations.
     - ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 16 does/do not possess the novelty as required by Article 22 paragraph 2 of the Patent Law.
     - ☒ Claim(s) 6, 8-14 does/do not possess the inventiveness as required by Article 22 paragraph 3 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ does/do not possess the practical applicability as required by Article 22 paragraph 4 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ does/do not comply with Article 26 paragraph 4 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ does/do not comply with Article 31 paragraph 1 of the Patent Law.
     - ☒ Claim(s) 5-9, 13 does/do not comply with the provisions of Rule 23 of the Implementing Regulations.
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ does/do not comply with Article 9 of the Patent Law.
     - ☐ Claim(s) _____ does/do not comply with the provisions of Rule 12 paragraph 1 of the Implementing Regulations.

   The explanations to the above conclusions are set forth in the text portion of this Notification.

7. In view of the conclusions set forth above, the Examiner is of the opinion that:
   - ☐ The applicant should make amendments as directed in the text portion of the Notification.
   - ☒ The applicant should expound in the response reasons why the application is patentable and make amendments to the application where there are deficiencies as pointed out in the text portion of the Notification, otherwise, the application will not be allowed.
   - ☐ The application contains no allowable invention, and therefore, if the applicant fails to submit sufficient reasons to prove that the application does have merits, it will be rejected.
   - ☐ _____

8. The followings should be taken into consideration by the applicant in making the response:
   (1) Under Article 37 of the Patent Law, the applicant should respond to the office action within 4 months counting from the date of receipt of the Notification. If, without any justified reason, the time limit is not met, the application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.
   (2) Any amendments to the application should be in conformity with the provisions of Article 33 of the Patent Law. Substitution pages should be in duplicate and the format of the substitution should be in conformity with the relevant provision contained in "The Examination Guidelines".
   (3) The response to the Notification and/or revision of the application should be mailed to or handed over to the "Reception Division" of the Patent Office, and documents not mailed or handed over to the Reception Divisions have no legal effect.
   (4) Without an appointment, the applicant and/or his agent shall not interview with the Examiner in the Patent Office.

9. This Notification contains a text portion of 4 pages and the following attachments:
   ☒ 3 cited reference(s), totaling 17 pages. ☐

Examination Dept. _____ Examiner: SONG Zuozhi Seal of the Examination Department

Text Portion of the First Office Action

The present application relates to an apparatus, system and method for generating digital watermark information and embedding the generated digital watermark information into a medium. After examination, the examiner now presents the following comments:

Dependent claims 5-9 and 13 themselves are multiple dependent claims, respectively. However, these claims respectively refer to the preceding multiple dependent claims and thus do not comply with the provisions of Rule 23.2. The applicant shall amend the reference relations of these claims. This office action is made on the basis of the claims to which the respective claims refer in the current claims.

1. The technical solution claimed by claim 1 does not possess novelty as required by Art. 22.2 of the CPL. Reference 1 (JP2001218030A) discloses an image processing system using a digital watermark (equivalent to the additional information), and specifically reveals the following technical features: means for acquiring input image data in which a digital watermark is embedded; means for extracting the digital watermark from the image; generating a new digital watermark by modifying the digital watermark when digital watermark information complies with a predetermined condition, and generating a printed (corresponding to copied) image by embedding the new digital watermark into the input image data or image data obtained by removing the digital watermark from the input image data (see paragraphs 8-15 and 53-62 of the description and Figs. 1-4, of reference 1). It can be seen that, Reference 1 has disclosed all the technical features of claim 1. Furthermore, the technical solution disclosed in Reference 1 and that claimed by claim 1 pertain to the same technical field, solve the same technical problem, adopt the same technical solution and can produce the same technical effect. Therefore, the technical solution as claimed by claim 1 does not possess novelty.

2. Dependent claim 2 does not possess novelty as required by Art. 22.2 of the CPL and its additional technical features have been disclosed by Reference 1 (JP2001218030A): the digital watermark contains maximum allowable number-of-print-times information for controlling the maximum allowable number of times the input image data is printed, and when the maximum allowable number-of-print-times information contains a variable value representing permission to print the input image data, the new digital watermark is generated by modifying the variable value and the printed image data are generated (see paragraphs 53-62 of the description and Figs. 3-4, of reference 1). Therefore, when claim 1 referred does not possess novelty, claim 2 does not possess novelty, either.

3. Dependent claim 3 does not possess novelty as required by Art. 22.2 of the CPL and its additional technical features have been disclosed by Reference 1 (JP2001218030A): when the variable value is within a predetermined range, the maximum allowable number-of-print-times information contains the variable value representing permission to print the input image data (see paragraphs 53-62 of the description and Figs. 3-4 of

reference 1). Therefore, when claim 2 referred does not possess novelty, claim 3 does not possess novelty, either.

4. Dependent claim 6 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL and its additional technical features have been disclosed by Reference 2 (EP0984615A2): when a seal mark (equivalent to the additional information) contains a characteristic (equivalent to the flag value) representing original data, changing the characteristic to a characteristic not representing the original data, generating a new seal mark, and generating copied image data (see paragraphs 72-81 of the description and Figs. 11-12 of reference 2). Furthermore, the above features have the same function in Reference 2 as in the present invention, both for changing the flag value representing image data of an original file to a flag value not representing image data of an original file and generating copied image data. Thus, it is obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain the technical solution claimed by claim 6 on the basis of Reference 1 in combination with Reference 2. Therefore, when claims 1-3 referred to do not possess novelty, claim 6 does not possess inventiveness.

5. Dependent claim 8 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL. Claim 8 differs from Reference 1 and Reference 2 in the following technical features: generating the new additional information by adding personal identification information of a user to the additional information. However, these distinguishing features have been disclosed by Reference 3 (JP6022119A): generating new additional information by adding personal identification information of a user to additional information (see Table 4, in page 13 of the description of reference 3). Furthermore, these distinguishing features have the same function in Reference 3 as in the present invention, both for generating the new additional information by adding personal identification information of a user to the additional information. Thus, when claim 8 refers to claims 1-3, it is obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain the technical solution claimed by claim 8 on the basis of Reference 1 in combination with Reference 3, and when claims 1-3 do not possess novelty, claim 8 does not possess inventiveness; when claim 8 refers to claim 6, it is obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain the technical solution claimed by claim 8 on the basis of Reference 1 and Reference 2 in combination with Reference 3, and when claim 6 does not possess inventiveness, claim 8 does not possess inventiveness.

6. Dependent claim 9 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL. Claim 9 differs from Reference 1 and Reference 2 in the following technical features: generating the new additional information by adding identification information of a system to the additional information. However, these distinguishing features have been disclosed by Reference 3 (JP6022119A): generating new additional information by adding identification information of a device to additional information (see Table 4, in page 13 of the description of reference 3). Furthermore, these distinguishing features have the same function in Reference 3 as in the present invention, both for generating the new additional information by adding identification information of a system to the additional information. Therefore, when claims 1-3 referred to do not possess novelty and claims 6 and 8 referred to do not possess inventiveness, claim 9 does not possess inventiveness.

7. The technical solution claimed by claim 10 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL. Said claim comprises an additional information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 9, a scanner and a printer. On the basis of the comments on the preceding claims (refer to the reasons for the comments on claims 1-3, 6 and 8-9), the examiner continues to make comments on claim 10. Reference 1 discloses comprising a printer for printing image data (see paragraph 13 of the description of reference 1); meanwhile, Reference 3 discloses comprising a scanner for obtaining image data to be input by scanning a printed medium in which the additional information is embedded (see paragraph 75 of the description and Fig. 15). Furthermore, the printer and the scanner respectively have the same functions in Reference 1 and Reference 3 as those in the present invention. Thus, it is obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain the technical solution claimed by claim 10 on the basis of Reference 1 in combination with Reference 2 and Reference 3. Therefore, the technical solution as claimed by claim 10 does not possess prominent substantive features or a notable progress and thus does not possess inventiveness.

8. Dependent claim 11 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL and its additional technical features have been disclosed by Reference 1: comprising a bidirectional communication interface, which thus implicitly discloses comprising a data receiving unit which receives an image transmitted through a communication line and provides the received image to the means for acquiring the input image data in which the digital watermark is embedded (see paragraph 13 of the description and Fig. 1 of reference 1). Therefore, when claim 10 referred to does not possess inventiveness, claim 11 does not possess inventiveness, either.

9. Dependent claim 12 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL and its additional technical features have been disclosed by Reference 1: comprising a bidirectional communication interface, which thus implicitly discloses comprising a data sending unit which sends the image data to the communication line (see paragraph 13 of the description and Fig. 1 of reference 1). Therefore, when claims 10 and 11 referred to do not possess inventiveness, claim 12 does not possess inventiveness, either.

10. Dependent claim 13 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL and its additional technical features have been disclosed by Reference 1: comprising a display unit 3 which displays digital watermark information (see paragraph 56 of the description of reference 1). Therefore, when claims 10-12 referred to do not possess inventiveness, claim 13 does not possess inventiveness, either.

11. The technical solution claimed by claim 14 does not possess inventiveness as required by Art. 22.3 of the CPL. Said claim, on the basis of the additional information processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprises an information reading unit. On the basis of the comments on claim 8 (refer to the reasons for the comments on claim 8), the examiner continues to make comments on claim 14. Reference 3 discloses comprising a code information reading unit (equivalent to the information reading unit) which reads

code (equivalent to the personal identification information) from a book (equivalent to the recording medium) and transmits the read code to an additional information management unit (see paragraph 75 of the description o reference 3). Furthermore, the function of the code information reading unit in Reference 3 is the same as that of the information reading unit in the present invention, both for reading information recorded on the medium and providing it to the additional information processing apparatus. Thus, it is obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain the technical solution claimed by claim 14 on the basis of Reference 1 in combination with Reference 2 and Reference 3. Therefore, the technical solution as claimed by claim 14 does not possess prominent substantive features or a notable progress and thus does not possess inventiveness.

12. The technical solution claimed by claim 16 does not possess novelty as required by Art. 22.2 of the CPL. Claim 16 is a method claim which one-to-one corresponds to the product claim 1. Refer to the comments in Item 1 for the reasons. It can be seen that, Reference 1 has disclosed all the technical features of claim 16. Furthermore, the technical solution disclosed in Reference 1 and that claimed by claim 16 pertain to the same technical field, solve the same technical problem, adopt the same technical solution and can produce the same technical effect. Therefore, the technical solution as claimed by claim 16 does not possess novelty.

The applicant should file a response within the specified time limit and expound in detail all the problems raised in this notification one by one. The applicant should also amend the application documents in accordance with the comments in this notification, and especially amend independent claims and their dependencies in accordance with the reference documents cited in this notification. The applicant should state in the observations the reasons why the newly-amended claims possess novelty and inventiveness with respect to the reference documents cited in this notification and the prior art before the filing date mentioned in the original description. In addition, the description should be accordingly amended in accordance with the amended claims. Pursuant to Article 33 of the CPL, the amendments to the application documents shall not go beyond the scope of disclosure contained in the initial description and claims.